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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4593  
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RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
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INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 8028  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 0407  
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 6332  
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 8619  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 1709  
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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - BURMA

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Top stories on Wednesday morning included an agreement reached between the ruling coalition and the opposition DPJ on civil service reform.

¶2. "Window for Aid for Burma Open?" The liberal Asahi editorialized (5/28): "Has a window for humanitarian aid to Burma really opened in the thick wall the junta has placed around the country? The junta belatedly expressed its acceptance of foreign relief workers more than three weeks after Cyclone Nargis hit. Unfortunately, the junta does not seem to have shifted its policy to giving priority to human life.... Humanitarian support should be kept separate from politics, and this rule should be followed by both aid providers and recipients. The junta has announced the extension of Aun San Suu Kyi's house arrest. This decision, made at a time when the world is working to provide humanitarian assistance, is infuriating."

¶3. "Relief Goods Must Reach Victims" The moderate Yomiuri's editorial argued (5/28): "The damage of the cyclone is continuing to grow in Burma.... It is problematic that food and other relief goods provided by the international community are not adequately reaching the cyclone victims. According to the UN, only one-fourth of the victims have received aid.... The junta should deliver relief supplies to the victims without fail, and it will lose international confidence if it fails to do so."

SCHIEFFER